

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 08779 140926Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /117 W
-----098522 140932Z /15

P R 140920Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8577
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION GENEVA

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USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD FR EC MTN
SUBJECT: FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD US TARIFF OFFER IN MTN

REF: COPENHAGEN 1682

1. JEAN CLAUDE PREVEL, DIRECTOR OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS
IN THE DREE, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, TOLD EMBOFF THAT
FRANCE IS INTERESTED IN MORE RAPID PROGRESS IN BRUSSELS
ON PREPARATION OF WITHDRAWAL LIST. HE HAD ATTENDED
ARTICLE 113 MEETING MARCH 10 AT BRUSSELS, AND SAID SOME
PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE, BUT THAT MUCH WORK IS TO BE DONE

BEFORE EASTER HOLIDAY AND THERE WOULD BE THREE 113
MEETINGS THIS WEEK. HE SAID GOF BELIEVES US EXCEPTIONS
ARE IMPORTANT IN AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO FRENCH
TRADE WHEREAS COMPENSATORY REDUCTIONS ARE NOT OF VALUE
TO FRANCE.

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2. PREVEL ALSO SAID RABOT HAD REPORTED ON THE GUNDELACH
VISIT TO WASHINGTON WHERE EC DELEGATION HAD GIVEN FULL
EXPOSITION OF EC POSITION ON GRAINS DISCUSSIONS. THEY
HAD STRESSED THE NEED FOR MOVEMENT ON THE US SIDE, BUT
PREVEL COMMENTED THAT NOTHING IN RABOT'S REPORT HINTED
AT THE CONFRONTATIONAL ATMOSPHERE DESCRIBED IN

COPENHAGEN'S REFTEL.

3. PREVEL WONDERED WHETHER THE PROPOSED APRIL 10 HIGH-LEVEL MEETING AT GENEVA WOULD BE WORTHWHILE. WHAT PREVEL SEEMED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT WAS THE POSSIBILITY OF DELAY IN OBTAINING A CONSENSUS IN BRUSSELS FOLLOWING SO CLOSELY ON THE FRENCH ELECTIONS, EVEN IF THE MAJORITY SHOULD WIN (WHICH HE EXPECTED) SINCE THERE MIGHT WELL

BE A CHANGE IN THE PRIME MINISTER AND IN OTHER KEY MINISTRIES, INCLUDING THE TRADE MINISTRY. WITHOUT DEBATING INTERNAL FRENCH SITUATION, WE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF FREQUENT STOCKTAKING, PARTICULARLY AT THIS CRUCIAL STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: ETRD, FR, EC, MTN
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